



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Howard Forest Fire Training Facility		
PROJECT LOCATION	CAL Fire Mendocino Unit Headquarters Address: 17501 North Highway 101, Willits, CA 95490 Legal Description: NE ¼ Sec.8, NW ¼ Sec.9; T17N, R13W; MDB & M	COUNTY	Mendocino
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Louis Sciocchetti, Forester II	PHONE	707-961-1494 (Office)
ADDRESS	CAL FIRE 802 N. Main St. Ft. Bragg, CA 95437		707-391-6750 (Cellular)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project consists of development of a structure fire training site on two leveled pads on the grounds of the CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit Headquarters. Each leveled pad will measure 150-ft X 150-ft. The vegetation is primarily grassland. Each pad will be surfaced with gravel prior to the placement of four metal Conex shipping containers arranged & stacked in a manner that simulates building structures. Training evolutions at this facility will include forcible entry, live fire attack, laddering, pumping, ventilation, flashover/backdraft prevention, hose manipulation, and search & rescue. Heavy equipment shall be used to level/gravel each pad and arrange containers. Woody material generated by the project shall be chipped or else piled and burned.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ **Categorical Exemption** Type/Section: Class 3; 15303 New Construction
- ☐ **Statutory Exemption (state code section):**
- ☐ **Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)**
- ☐ **Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))**
- ☐ **Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))**

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

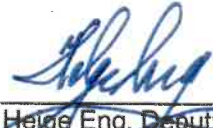
The proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment. The California Natural Diversity Data was searched and no rare, threatened or endangered plant or animal species were identified that will be negatively impacted by this project. The CAL FIRE Area Archaeologist has been consulted and has determined that this project is exempt from further archaeological review. Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit, Resource Management, 17501 N. Highway 101, Willits, CA 95490, Attn. Environmental Coordinator.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAY 25 2017

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

 5/24/17
Helge Eng, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection